

CARDINAL GIBBONS ON POPE'S POLICY

Benedict XV. Striving, Without Partiality, for a Just Peace.

BEARS SORROWS OF ALL

Pontiff Not an Ordinary Neutral—Influence Consistent Against Conflict.

"The War Policy of the Pope" is discussed by Cardinal Gibbons in the current number of *America*, the national Roman Catholic weekly review. The Cardinal explains and supports the attitude of the head of his church toward the war, and defends it against any suspicion of partiality. He says Benedict XV. has striven nobly and generously for a just peace and predicts that peace will finally be based on the general principles the Pontiff has pointed out. Cardinal Gibbons's article follows in part:

"The world to-day is full of peace terms and rumors of peace. When we consider the sorrows and the tragedies which the war has caused, and try to take measure of all the financial and industrial losses it has entailed both here and abroad, and look forward into the future in an endeavor to compute the misery and the ruin it will surely entail if prolonged, we cannot but yearn for the day when that just, honorable and durable peace is given to the world.

Rules by Love.

"My heart goes out to all the sufferers of the war, to my own countrymen first of all.

"But one lone and majestic figure calls for all my sympathy and love. More perhaps than any other single individual our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XV., has suffered in this tragedy. Others have but their own individual sorrows. He bears the sorrows of all.

"It is not astonishing then that the Holy Father, lifted above the noise and the strife of the world policies, has constantly and consistently worked for a just and enduring peace. Reasonable men expect that from him. He is a priest. To millions of Catholics throughout the world he is the Supreme Pontiff commissioned by Christ to rule and guide His flock. Like his Master he rules not by the sword but by love. He is the universal pastor. As such he cannot become a participant in the strife. And though he should condemn and has actually condemned all violations of the laws of war yet as far as is consistent with morality and religion he must hold the balance of an equal judgment between the contending parties.

"Those who wish that he had done more misunderstand the nature of his office. He is not an ordinary neutral. His position has peculiar features that make it altogether unique. He is a co-sufferer with all the nations in the conflict.

"It must not be thought that his silence, when he thought it necessary, came from cowardice, worldly prudence or political and selfish motives.

"Scarcely a month of his pontificate passed without some word of warning from him, some appeal for the prisoner, the war sufferer, some protest against the horrors and injustices of the fratricidal struggle. On January 22, 1915, he again earnestly pleaded for the cessation of armed strife. He appointed February 7 for Europe and March 21 for the rest of the world as a day of public prayer for peace by the millions of his children throughout the world.

"In the month of May of that same year he asked his subjects, wherever found, to turn to the Immaculate Heart of the Mother of God and to pray to her that order, peace and love might soon be restored to a suffering world.

Pointed Way to Peace.

"Toward the end of that year, in the consistorial allocation of December 6, he made one of his memorable statements, one that may be considered as the seed of every legitimate movement for peace undertaken since, when he declared that a way to a just and durable peace consisted in a clear and straightforward formulation by the respective parties of their aims and purposes, to be followed by a conference in which, all injustices being laid aside, mutual concessions and compensations should be made in the spirit of equity.

"In 1916 he urged the practice of the spirit of penance in the families of the belligerents and appointed a general communion day for the children for the return of peace. A few months later he protested against the malicious charges made against his impartiality and solemnly affirmed that no selfish interest guided his acts, but that he was working for the cause of suffering and bleeding humanity.

"The following year witnessed again his untiring efforts in the cause of order and civilization. His work culminated in his peace note of August 1 to the heads of the many nations at war, a document which in spite of its critics is a monument to the universal affection, the prudent diplomacy and the strict impartiality of the Vicar of Christ.

A Diplomatic Effort.

"That document has been misunderstood by some, by others wilfully misrepresented. It was not meant to be a final award. It purported to be but an effort to bring the nations together in the persons of their representatives and delegates for the purpose of beginning a discussion of peace. It was not a judicial decision. It was a diplomatic effort. It contained the broad outlines of a plan of settlement. Unless I am much mistaken when the peace congress assembles the final verdict of the nations will be based on the general principles pointed out by the Holy Father.

"It has been said again and again that Benedict XV. has forgotten Belgium, that he did not speak up for her in her hour of betrayal by the superior forces of her invaders. When Benedict XV. came to the throne Belgium had already been invaded by the German armies and a considerable part of her territory overrun. The flagrant injustices had already been committed. When the invasion took place the saintly Pope was already in the shadow of death.

"Coming to the throne the new Pope did not wait long to let the world know of his sentiments with regard to the violation of Belgian territory. He spoke at first with prudent circumspection for not all the facts were in his possession. But he soon learned the truth and acted conformably to it.

"As a last word I beg to congratulate my countrymen on the generous ardor with which they have rallied to the support of our beloved President in his hour of trial. He has striven for high ideals and has found a reward in an enthusiastic response from his fellow citizens. They have not failed him and will not do so in the future, but will continue to give him and his colleagues that loyal support which is an earnest and complete victory and of a return of the happy peace for which he and the Holy Father are laboring, each in his own sphere."

ONE MAN DEAD FROM MONTANA EXPLOSION

Two Others of Warship's Crew Seriously Hurt.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—One man was mortally injured, two seriously and five slightly hurt in the explosion of a cartridge case last Monday on board the armored cruiser *Montana*, the Navy Department announced to-day. Beyond the names no details are given.

Boatswain's Mate Charles J. Pany, Chicago, died while being taken to a hospital. Seamen Roy L. Putnam, Phoenix, Ala., and Lawrence M. Finley, Kawker City, Kan., were seriously hurt.

The slightly injured were: Private Richard M. Gulon, Marine Corps, New Orleans; Seamen William T. Friederichs, Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Charles E. Fyle, Lamar, Col.; John H. Atterson, Salmora, Ky., and N. T. Leroy, home address not given.

Held for Impersonating Army Officer.

Frederick M. Robinson of 527 West 121st street, who is charged with impersonating an army officer and giving Wanamaker's store a bad check for \$185, was held for examination to-morrow in \$2,500 bail when arraigned yesterday before Magistrate McGeehan in the Jefferson Market court. Robinson was the field uniform of the army when he had his check cashed.

Aviation School for Sacramento.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—A site at Sacramento, Cal., has been approved by the War Department for an army aviation school.

PRUSSIAN PARTIES CLASH ON SUFFRAGE

Reform Fight Reaches Final Stages in Lower House.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 20.—In the lower house of the Prussian Diet, Berlin, today the fight for electoral reform in Prussia is now entering its final stage. The contest in the special commission now centres around the choice between the Government programme for equal and direct secret suffrage and the Conservative substitute measure, which provides for a system of plural voting and representation based on professions and guilds.

While Vice-President Friedberg of the Prussian Diet has hinted that the Government might make a concession by revising certain essential provisions of its suffrage measure, the Liberal and Radical members of the commission vigorously oppose any modification of the Government's attitude as repeatedly set forth by Chancellor von Hertling, Dr. Friedberg and Dr. Dries, the Prussian Minister of the Interior.

The commission to-day continued its discussions of the cardinal paragraphs, which are based on the principle "a man a vote." Unless the National Liberal party representatives on the commission are won over by the present minority the measure is likely to be referred back to a plenary session, with the basic principle of electoral reform wholly eliminated or vitally altered.

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THE STORY OF

1833 The Sun 1918

By FRANK M. O'BRIEN

In September, 1833

"New York was about the present size of Indianapolis or Seattle. Of its quarter of a million population only eight or ten thousand lived above Twenty-third street."

"Washington Square had just been adopted as a park."

"Columbia College, in the square bounded by Murray, Barclay, Church and Chapel streets, had a hundred students."

"There were twelve schools."

"Postmaster Gouverneur had one clerk to sort all the mail that came into the city from the rest of the world."

"Irving and Cooper, Bryant and Halleck, Nathaniel P. Willis and George P. Morris were the largest figures of intellectual New York."

The Sun

Was the first newspaper sold on the streets of New York. Its first newsboy grew up to be Barney Williams, the famous comedian.

His boss, Benjamin H. Day, was the first American to make a success of a newspaper sold at a popular price. Day's capital was a hand press, some type and the courage that belonged to a typical Yankee only twenty-three years old.

Ben Day, with one printer and one devil, got out the first Sun. Where Greeley and Bennett had failed Day succeeded. In six months The Sun had the largest circulation in New York—all of eight thousand copies.

THE STORY BEGINS IN

Next Sunday's Sun

Tell Your Newsdealer

to bring you next Sunday's Sun, in which the first instalment will tell of old New York, of the days of duels, of Davy Crockett, of pigs wandering in City Hall Park; and of the rise of human journalism.